



Montana Department of
ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Judy Martz, Governor

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July 1, 2003

Richard Long
Director, Air & Radiation Program
Region VIII, 999 18th Street, Suite 300
Denver, CO 80202

Subject: PSD Modeling Analysis Affecting North Dakota and Montana

Dear Mr. Long:

This letter regards the May 23, 2003 *Federal Register* notice of availability to provide comments on a dispersion modeling analysis of Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) increment consumption in North Dakota and eastern Montana (68 FR 28211). The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (Department) offers the following comments:

The Department does not believe that facilities in North Dakota are consuming increment in Montana baseline areas. Therefore, no violations of the Class I increment should be occurring in Montana.

The Department is also concerned that the North Dakota PSD sources may affect PSD permitting processes and increment management in other states. In order to ensure Montana's interests are adequately represented, the Department requests EPA include the Department in any future discussions, including any negotiations leading to a legal settlement of this matter.

If you should have questions regarding this request, please contact David Klemp at (406) 444-0286.

Sincerely,

Jan P. Sensibaugh
Director

cc: Terry O'Clair, North Dakota Air Director